

**WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:**

1. A method for refreshing an on-going electronic auction, comprising the steps of:

determining that auction parameters have been changed; and  
automatically refreshing a copy of the auction at a browser of an auction participant.

2. The method as defined in claim 1, wherein the determining step comprises determining if an indicator has been set at the auction server side to indicate that an auction parameter has changed.

3. The method as defined in claim 2, wherein the indicator determining step comprises refreshing an updater object; and determining if the value in the refreshed updater object indicates that an auction parameter has changed.

4. The method as defined in claim 1, wherein the determining step comprises receiving a communication from the auction server side indicating that an auction parameter has changed.

5. The method as defined in claim 1, wherein the determining step comprises the step of determining if the communication is from an authorized party.

6. The method as defined in claim 1, further comprising the step of displaying a notice that web page content has been changed.

7. A method for conducting an electronic auction, comprising the steps of:

during an on-going electronic auction session, updating the auction with a changed auction parameter; and

25 creating an indication of an updated auction.

26 8. The method as defined in claim 7, wherein the creating an  
27 indication step comprises setting an update value to indicate a changed  
28 parameter.

29 9. The method as defined in claim 7, wherein the creating an  
30 indication step comprises sending a communication indicating an updated  
31 auction parameter to auction participants.

32 10. A method for conducting an electronic auction, comprising the  
33 steps of:

34 during an on-going electronic auction session, updating the auction  
35 with a changed auction parameter; and  
36 periodically refreshing an auction web page at a browser of an  
37 auction participant.

38 11. A program product containing machine readable programming code  
39 for causing a machine to perform the following method steps to refresh  
40 an on-going electronic auction:

41 determining that an auction parameter has been changed; and  
42 automatically refreshing a copy of the auction at a browser of an  
43 auction participant.

44 12. The program product as defined in claim 11, wherein the code for  
45 the determining step comprises code for determining if an indicator has  
46 been set at the auction server side to indicate that an auction parameter  
47 has changed.

48 13. The program product as defined in claim 12, wherein the code for  
49 the indicator determining step comprises code for refreshing an updater

object; and determining if the value in the refreshed updater object indicates that an auction parameter has changed.

14. The program product as defined in claim 11, wherein the code for the determining step comprises code for receiving a communication from the auction server side indicating that an auction parameter has changed.

15. The program product as defined in claim 11, wherein the code for the determining step comprises code for determining if the communication is from an authorized party.

16. The program product as defined in claim 11, further comprising code for performing the step of displaying a notice that web page content has been changed.

17. A program product containing machine readable program code for causing a machine to perform the following steps to conduct an electronic auction:

    during an on-going electronic auction session, updating the auction with a changed auction parameter; and  
    creating an indication of an updated auction.

18. The program product as defined in claim 17, wherein the code for creating an indication step comprises code for setting an update value to indicate a changed parameter.

19. The program product as defined in claim 18, wherein the code for creating an indication comprises code for sending a communication indicating an updated auction parameter to auction participants.

20. A program product containing machine readable for causing a machine to perform the following method steps to conduct an electronic auction:

76 during an on-going electronic auction session, updating the auction  
77 with a changed auction parameter; and  
78 periodically refreshing an auction web page at a browser of an  
79 auction participant.

80 21. A system for refreshing an on-going electronic auction, comprising:  
81 a component for determining that an auction parameter has been  
82 changed; and  
83 a component for automatically refreshing a copy of the auction at a  
84 browser of an auction participant.

85 22. A system for conducting an electronic auction, comprising:  
86 a component for, during an on-going electronic auction session,  
87 updating the auction with a changed auction parameter; and  
88 a component for creating an indication of an updated auction.

89 23. A system for conducting an electronic auction, comprising:  
90 a component for, during an on-going electronic auction session,  
91 updating the auction with a changed auction parameter; and  
92 a component for periodically refreshing an auction web page at a  
93 browser of an auction participant.